

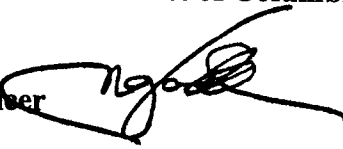
**Government of the District of Columbia  
Office of the Chief Financial Officer**



**Natwar M. Gandhi**  
Chief Financial Officer

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The Honorable Vincent C. Gray  
Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia

**FROM:** Natwar M. Gandhi  
Chief Financial Officer 

**DATE:** April 28, 2010

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Impact Statement – “Data-Sharing and Information  
Coordination Amendment Act of 2010”

**REFERENCE:** Bill Number 18-356, Draft Committee Print

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**Conclusion**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2010 through FY 2013 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation.

**Background**

The proposed legislation would make a number of changes with regards to sharing health and human services information between agencies and service providers. First, it would allow<sup>1</sup> agencies or service providers to use and would require them to disclose to another agency or service provider health and human services information related to an identified individual without prior consent for the purposes of: a) establishing eligibility for, determining the amount and type of, coordinating, or conducting research related to the individual's treatment, services, benefits, support; or assistance; or b) conducting oversight activities. Second, it would require each agency or service provider to designate an individual to be responsible for responding to requests for information. Third, it would require each service provider to make a written request for information and the agency or service provider who provides the information to keep a record of what was disclosed. Fourth, the proposed bill would authorize the Mayor to establish a single or combined data system to store and share health and human services information. Fifth, it would establish civil and criminal penalties for the unlawful use of disclosure of health and human services information. Lastly, it would require the Mayor to issue rules to implement this Act.

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<sup>1</sup>Unless specifically prohibited under District or federal law.

### **Financial Plan Impact**

Funds are sufficient in the FY 2010 through FY 2013 budget and financial plan to implement the provisions of the proposed legislation. Allowing agencies to share information and authorizing the Mayor to establish a data system would not have any cost. If the Mayor chooses to exercise this authority there would likely be a cost; however, at this time no cost estimate is available as there are currently no plans for creating such a data system. The requirement that each agency have a designated individual who responds to requests for information is not expected to necessitate additional resources; instead it is expected that these duties could be carried out by current employees using existing agency resources. However, if the number of requests is significant, this could cause a spending pressure for the responding agency.